

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0028] on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] The burning heat in this hot bed is maintained by the subsequent supply of material to be decomposed and by the addition of oxygen or air, e.g., an oxygen-containing gas. A device for the regulated addition of air or oxygen for thermal decomposition is located under the hot bed, advantageously over the entire length of the area.